

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the **COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **THURSDAY, 15th JANUARY 2015** at **7.15 p.m.**

PRESENT **Councillor Mrs. W. Hillary (Chairman) and**
Councillors E. Adam, D.G. Atkinson, J. Atkinson, R. Bowman,
A.M. Chandran, Mrs. B.A. Clare, J. Clark, Mrs. M. Dalton, R.S.
Fleming, G.C. Gray, I. Gray, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, J.P. Hillary
and M. Iveson.

OFFICIALS Mr. A. Bailey (Town Clerk)
Miss C. Ryder (Senior Admin. Officer)

108. **NOTICE OF MEETING**

The notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

109. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors W. Blenkinsopp, J.D. Clare, M.A. Dalton, Mrs. I. Hewitson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, W. Iveson, Mrs. V.M. Raw and D. Summers.

110. **MEMBERS' DISPENSATION**

No dispensation requests had been received.

111. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors E. Adam and J. Hillary would be leaving the meeting for the discussion on agenda item No. 7 (land Sale – Agnew 5) as they are Members of Durham County Council.

112. **LETTERS OF REPRESENTATION**

There had been no letters of representation received.

113. **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

It was proposed by Councillor R.S. Fleming, seconded by Councillor A. Chandran and

RESOLVED – that the public and press be excluded from the meeting in order to consider commercial interests concerning the land sale at Agnew 5.

114. **LAND SALE – AGNEW 5**

The Town Clerk had submitted a report setting out information on the potential disposal of 1.78 acres (.78 hectares) of land adjacent to the Agnew 5 designated housing development site including the draft Heads of Terms from Durham County Council.

The County Council had presented an offer for the purchase of the land which indicated a substantial shortfall from the valuation received from the District Valuation Service. There are HCA Clawback percentages to be taken into account on a 'clawback of either 48%, 46% or 44%' depending on the actual year the sale took place. Legal costs would also need to be taken into account from the land sale.

It was proposed by Councillor R.S. Fleming and seconded by Councillor A.M. Chandran that the offer as proposed by Durham County Council is not acceptable given the valuation for the land from the District Valuation Service.

RESOLVED – as follows:-

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the offer as proposed by Durham County Council is not acceptable given the valuation for the land from the District Valuation Service.
- (iii) That the Town Clerk be instructed to advise Durham County Council that the present offer is unacceptable and seek to negotiate an increase in the offer in line with the District Valuer's valuation.

CHAIRMAN.